5: Bancroft H-4 (no date) 1883 Plateau

The coat dress -- robes or blankets of bark-fibre or
291 small skins—is also used for some distance inland on the banks of the Columbia and Fraser, as among the Nicoutamuch, Kliketats, and Wascos; but the distinctive inland dress is of dressed skin of deer, antelope, or mountain sheep; made into a rude frock, or shirt, with loose sleeves; leggins reaching half-way up the thigh, and either bound to the leg or attached by strings to a belt about the waist; moccasins, and rarely a cap. Men's frocks descend half-way to the knees; women's nearly to the ankles. Over this dress, or to conceal the want of some part of it, a buffalo or elk robe is worn, espe-
[531] cially in winter. All garments are profusely and often tastefully decorated with leather fringes, feathers, shells, and porcupine quills; beads, trinkets and various bright-colored cloths having been added to Indian ornamenta-
296 tion since the whites came. A new suit of this native skin clothing is not without beauty, but by most tribes the suit is worn without change till nearly ready to drop off, and becomes disgustingly filthy. Some tribes clean and whiten their clothing occasionally with white earth,
[224] or pipe-clay. The buffalo and most of the other large skins are obtained from the country east of the mountains.[161]

[161] The Ootlashoot women wear 'a long shirt of skin, reaching down to
291 the ancles, and tied round the waist.' Few ornaments. The Nez Percés
301 wear 'the buffalo or elk-skin robe decorated with beads, sea-shells, chiefly mother-of-pearl, attached to an otter-skin collar and hung in the hair.' Leggins and moccasins are painted; a plait of twisted grass is worn round the neck. The women wear their long robe without a girdle, but to it 'are tied little pieces of brass and shells, and other small articles.' 'The dress of the female is indeed more modest, and more studiously so than any we have observed, though the other sex is careless of the indelicacy of exposure.' 'The Sokulk females have no other covering but a truss or piece of leather tied round the hips and then drawn tight between the legs.' Three fourths of the Pisquitpaws 'have scarcely any robes at all.' The Chilluckittequaws use skins of wolves, deer, elk, and wild cats. 'Round their neck is put a strip of some skin with the tail of the animal hanging down over the breast.' *Lewis and Clarke's Trav.*, pp. 321, 340–1, 351, 359, 361, 377, 526, 528, 532–3.
[292] Many of the Walla Walla, Nez Percé, and Cayuse females wore robes 'richly garnished with beads, higuas,' etc. The war chief wears as a head-dress the whole skin of a wolf's head, with the ears standing erect. The Okanagans wear in winter long detachable sleeves or mittens of wolf or fox skin, also wolf or bear skin caps when hunting. Men and women dress nearly alike, and are profuse in the use of ornaments. *Ross' Adven.*, p. 127, 294–8; *Id., Fur Hunters*, vol. ii., p. 306. The Flatheads often change their clothing and
[296] clean it with pipe-clay. They have no regular head-dress. From the Ya-

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The inland dwelling is a frame of poles, covered with rush matting, or with the skins of the buffalo or elk. As a rule the richest tribes and individuals use skins, although many of the finest Sahaptin houses are covered with mats only. Notwithstanding these nations are rich in horses, I find no mention that horse-hides are ever employed for this or any other purpose. The form of the lodge is that of a tent, conical or oblong, and usually sharp at the top, where an open space is left for light and air to enter, and smoke to escape. Their internal condition presents a marked contrast with that of the Chinook and Nootka habitations, since they are by many interior tribes kept free from vermin and filth. Their light material and the frequency with which their location is changed contributes to this result. The lodges are pitched by the women, who acquire great skill and celerity in the work. Holes are left along the sides for entrance, and within, a floor of sticks is laid, or more frequently the ground is spread with mats, and skins serve for beds. Dwellings are often built sufficiently large to accommodate many families, each of which in such case has its own fireplace on a central longitudinal line, a definite space being allotted for its goods, but no dividing partitions are ever used. The dwellings are

kima to the Okanagan the men go naked, and the women wear only a belt with a slip passing between the legs. *Cox's Adven.*, vol. i., pp. 133, 148, 240–1, vol. ii., p. 144. Nez Percés better clad than any others, Cayuses well clothed, Walla Wallas naked and half starved. *Palmer's Jour.*, pp. 54, 124, 127–8. At the Dalles, women 'go nearly naked, for they wear little else than what may be termed a breech-cloth, of buckskin, which is black and filthy with dirt.' *Wilkes' Nar.*, in *U. S. Ex. Ex.*, vol. iv., pp. 409–10, 426, 473. The Kliketat women wear a short pine-bark petticoat tied round the loins. *Townsend's Nar.*, pp. 78, 178, 148. 'Their buffaloe robes and other skins they chiefly procure on the Missouri, when they go over to hunt, as there are no buffaloe in this part of the country and very little other game.' *Gass' Jour.*, pp. 189, 205, 218–19, 295. Tusahepaw 'women wore caps of willow neatly worked and figured.' *Irving's Astoria*, pp. 315, 317, 319; *Id., Bonneville's Adven.*, p. 301. The Flathead women wear straw hats, used also for drinking and cooking purposes. *De Smet, Voy.*, pp. 45–7, 198. The Shushwaps wear in wet weather capes of bark trimmed with fur, and reaching to the elbows. Moccasins are more common than on the coast, but they often ride barefoot. *Mayne's B. C.*, p. 301. *Parker's Explor. Tour.*, pp. 299–30; *Kane's Wand.*, p. 264, and cut; *Fremont's Opn. and Cal.*, pp. 186–7; *Stevens*, in *Ind. Aff. Rept.*, 1854, p. 222; *Nicolay's Opn. Ter.*, p. 153; *Franchère's Nar.*, p. 268; *Dunn's Oregon*, p. 311; *Coke's Rocky Mts.*, p. 304; *Hunt*, in *Nouvelles Annales des Voy.*, tom. x., 1821, pp. 74–5, 78.